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ELECTRIFICATION AND IRRIGATION IN BULGARIA

ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTRY OF ELECTRIFICATION -- Sofia, Elektroenergija, May-Jun 53

The Bulgarian Ministry of Electrification functions through a large planning and research organization, which includes the following: the V. T. S. /unidentified/ "Energoproekt" (Hydroelectric Power Planning Organization); those construction and installation organizations, known as "Hidrostroy" (Hydroelectric Power Construction), "Promenergomontazh" (Industrial Power Installation), and "Oblastni elektricheski stroezhi" (Regional Electrical Constructions); the "Elprom" (Electrical Industry) State Electrical and Industrial Associations; and the "Energoobedinenie" (Power Association) State Association.

ELECTRIFICATION AND IRRIGATION -- Sofia, Planovo Stopanstvo, May 53

Between 1949 and 1953, the following plants of the electrical industry were built in Bulgaria: the "Vasil Kolarov" Heavy-Current Plant (Silnotokovi zavod), the "Kliment Voroshilov" Light-Current Plant (Slabotokovi zavod), the electric cable plant (Elektrokabelni zavod) in Burgas, the electric light-bulb plant (Elektrolampov zavod) in Sliven, the "Lenin" Dielectric Porcelain Plant (Elektroporetslanov zavod), and the "Nayden Kirov" Insulating Materials Plant (Zavod za inolatsionni materiali). The following power stations were built during this period: the 24,000-kilowatt "Stalin" TETs (steam-heat and electric power station), the 25,000-kilowatt "V. Chervenkov" TETs, and the 50,000-kilowatt "Republika" TETs. The 1,500-kilowatt "Dimitrovo" TETs, the 6,700-kilowatt "Asenitsa" VETs (hydroelectric power station), the 7,300-kilowatt "Vuzha" VETs, the "Vidima" [illegible], the "Iskra" VETs, and the "Kitka" VETs were expanded.

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At the end of 1952, TETs produced 65 percent of the electric power, and VETs produced 35 percent. It is planned that this ratio will be reversed by the end of 1957; i.e., VETs will produce 65 percent of the total power in Bulgaria.

The present deficiency of power can be overcome with the expansion of the "Stalin," the "Republika," and the "Vulko Chervenkov" TETs and the construction of the "Maritsa-Iztok" (Maritsa-East) TETs. -- Petko Nenov

NUMBER OF ELECTRIFIED VILLAGES -- Sofia, Planovo Stopanstvo, May 53

The number of electrified villages at the end of 1952 was 2,636. -- Anani Panov

According to statistical data, the total annual precipitation in Bulgaria is 66 billion cubic meters of water, including 17 billion cubic meters of drain-off water. According to incomplete data, 65 percent or 11 billion cubic meters of water could be used for irrigation. As the irrigation norm is 500 cubic meters of water per decare, about 45 percent of Bulgarian agricultural land could therefore be irrigated. The potential power of Bulgarian mountain rivers is 2-2.5 million kilowatts. During 1952, a total of 2 million decares of land was irrigated, and the "Stalin" Brushlyan, the Nikopol-Svishtov-Byala, and large portions of the Cherven Bryag and the Purvomay irrigation systems were completed.

This summer, the "Pirinska Bistritsa" irrigation system in the Blagoevgrad Okrug, the Devnenski izvori (Devnya Springs) irrigation system in Stalin Okrug, over 70 percent of the Sandrovo irrigation system, and 45 percent of the Rositsa irrigation system will be in operation. The construction of the Sofia, the Stara Zagora, and the Kazanluk irrigation systems will begin this year. The Shabla and Batovo irrigation systems in Dobrudzha are now under construction.

In 1944, 357,000 decares were irrigated; in 1947, 629,000; in 1950, 1,263,000; and in 1952, 2,004,000. The plan for 1953 calls for the irrigation of 3,000,000 decares.

The [average?] water discharge of the "Al. Stamboliyski" Dam was calculated to be 2,400 cubic meters per second, but actually was only 1,000 cubic meters per second. The maximum discharge was calculated to be 4,200 cubic meters per second, but actually was only 2,500 cubic meters per second. -- Blagoy Uzunov

Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 5 Aug 53

In a 24-hour period, the "Stalin" Brushlyan irrigation system irrigates only 2,000 decares, instead of 5,000 decares.

COOPERATION OF COMMUNIST BLOC COUNTRIES IN ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAM -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 25 Sep 53

With the aid of the USSR and the cooperation of Czechoslovakia and Hungary, Bulgaria has built the "Stalin," the "Vulko Chervenkov," and the "Republika" TETs, which have a total output capacity of 95,000 kilowatts and provide electric power to the most industrialized centers of the nation. In the next 2-3 years, the "Maritsa-Iztok" TETs in Dimitrovgrad will be built. This TETs will use coal from the East Maritsa bituminous coal basins.

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PLANS FOR FURTHER ELECTRIFICATION -- Sofia, Elektroenergiya, Apr 53

By December 1952, 2,523 villages, comprising 70. percent of Bulgaria's population, were electrified. It is planned to provide electricity for 85 percent of Bulgaria's population by December 1957.

RUMANIAN-BULGARIAN CONVENTION FOR SHARING POWER -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 20 Aug 53

The Rumanian delegation, headed by Minister of Electrification Gheorghe Gaston Marin, has arrived in Sofia to attend the Bulgarian-Rumanian convention on the sharing of electric power between the two countries.

"VASIL KOLAROV" DAM TO SUPPLY WATER FOR FOUR HYDROELECTRIC POWER STATIONS -- Sofia, Tekhnika, May 53

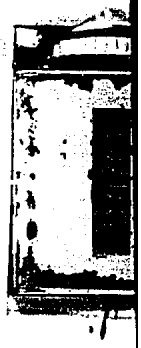
The "Vasil Kolarov" Dam represents the beginning of a large Bulgarian waterway system, called the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam-Batak-Debrashtitsa-Maritsa waterway. Water flowing from the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam to the Maritsa River will supply four electric power stations; in the process, it will descend 1,300 meters. Each cubic meter of water flowing into the Maritsa River will produce 2.70 kilowatts of power. The artificial lake, with a volume of 300 million cubic meters, will make it possible to produce power at the time when it is most needed.

A tunnel 12 kilometers in length will supply water to the "Batak" VETs. This tunnel will be unique in that it will be supplied with water from several streams. The "Batak" VETs can receive almost as much water from these streams as from the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam. Two small dams will be built beside the tunnel to collect water from the streams, whose sources are located above the tunnel. The collected water is then pumped into the tunnel by pumps similar to those of the "Toshkov chark" Dam. The water from the lake of the "Beglika" Dam will be pumped into the lake of the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam.

The underground "Batak" VETs is designed to produce three times as much power as the largest existing VETs in Bulgaria, but will be only the third most powerful VETs of the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam-Batak-Debrashtitsa-Aleko-Maritsa waterway system. /It is not known whether "Aleko" is the fourth VETs or another reservoir./

Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 19 Aug 53

The waters from the mountain rivers and streams will flow through the "Batak" VETs into the "Batashko blato" (Batak swamp), whose water capacity will be greater than that of the "[illegible] Stambolliyski" Dam. This huge reservoir will supply water for the "Debrashtitsa" and the "Aleko" VETs projects and will irrigate hundreds of thousands of hectares of land. The yields of the fertile fields of the Pazardzhik and Plovdiv okoliyas will be many times greater than the present yields.



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SIX-YEAR CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR WATERWAY -- Sofia, Elektroenergiya, Apr 53

According to plans, the "Vasil Kolarov" Dam-Batak-Debrashtitsa-Aleko waterway will be completed in 6 years, in the following stages:

(1) 1953-1955 -- the "Batak" VETs and the main tunnel from the "V. Kolarov" Dam to the "Batak" VETs; part of the "Cherna" and "Gashna" collecting canals and the small "Beglika" Dam wall and its pumping station.

(2) 1953-1957-- the "Batak" Dam; the "Debrashtitsa" VETs; and the "Aleko" VETs.

(3) 1955-1958 -- the wall of the small "T[illegible]-chark" Dam, the pumping station, and the canal; the "Ravnigor," the "Novamakhala," and the "Elidere" collecting canals; the "Cherna" and "Gashna" canals; the Kon-porni Canal; the small dam on the Karadzhadere River and its pumping station.

CRITICISM OF HIGH CONSTRUCTION COSTS -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 3 Oct 53

During the first 6 months of 1953, the "Petrokhan" VETs has overspent more than one half million leva. The excessive costs for labor are due to incorrect accounting, unrealistic work norms, and improper planning.

Excessive labor costs result also from low labor productivity and from failure to fulfill the daily plan. Fulfillment of the daily work plan averages only 70 percent. Low labor productivity is the result of poor construction methods. More than 30 machines on the project are not being used. Concrete mixers and electric motors stand idle while laborers mix cement and water with their hands. Compressors are indispensable for tunnel work, but only nine of the 16 on hand are being used. More than 2 years have been spent in the repair of two locomotives, and they are not yet repaired. Some of the technical leaders -- especially Director Kurtev (fnu) -- have an improper attitude toward machinery. There is practically no interest in the use and the maintenance of machinery.

"Petrokhan" VETs managers have reported falsely that plans are fulfilled. Several technical leaders have succeeded to some extent in concealing their mistakes. To show an overfulfillment of production plans for the year, construction managers reported operations completed which were not completed until the first quarter of the following year. Such an incident happened at the "Klisura" VETs. These mistakes lead to overspending. There are also cases where the actual number of completed projects is artificially increased in order to increase salaries.

The "Petrokhan" VETs is being built without prior planning. During the first 6 months of 1953, construction work amounting to over 100,000 leva was completed without prior budgeting of costs. Construction without accurate budgeting is being carried out in other projects of the Ministry of Electrification.

The administrative and technical leaders of the "Petrokhan" VETs construction project neglect socialist competition, popularizing and spreading the experience of experts, and encouraging the initiative of workers.

Party and labor organizations have not done anything to improve the situation. Political activity among the personnel is on a very low level. Agitator groups are practically nonexistent and there are no agitation meetings among the workers. The party bureau is interested in administrative

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and personnel problems, but does very little to raise the political consciousness of the personnel, to activate labor organizations, and to raise the skills of the workers.

The "Khidrostroy" DSO (State Construction Association) is also responsible for the gross violations of financial and disciplinary rules by the managers of the "Petrokhan" VETs. The management of the association tolerates this as a usual budget miscalculation. The chief accountant of the association makes it appear that these extra expenses are unavoidable. In this manner, he increases excess financial expenses for construction.

The Ministry of Electrification, which is aware of the excessive spending, does not take appropriate measures to stop it.

NEW FALLS SYSTEM ON CHEYA RIVER -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 18 Aug 53

A unique falls system on the Cheya River in Bulgaria will be in operation when the planned "Asenitsa-3" VETs is completed. This VETs is the village of Luki, about 40 kilometers from Asenitsa. Headquarters from the "Energokhidroproekt" (Hydroelectric Power Planning) organization are studying the area where the water from the Cheya River, serving the "Asenitsa-2" and "Asenitsa-1" VETs, will flow through the projected "Asenitsa-3" VETs.

INSTALLATIONS AT THE ROSITSA-1 VETs -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 25 Sep 53

The Rositsa-1 VETs is being constructed at the foot of the "Aleksander Stamboliyski" Dam.

The rotor and stator for the VETs generators have been tested and prepared for mounting.

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